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8-16-01
M.L.

PATENT / DOCKET NO. 26530.60

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Wipfel et al

Serial No.: Continuation of 09/731,422

Filed: Herewith

For: METHOD FOR DETECTING AND
RESOLVING A PARTITION
CONDITION IN A CLUSTER

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Group Art Unit: 2151

Examiner:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner For Patents
Box NEW APPLICATION
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to the initial examination of the above application please enter the following:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete the Abstract paragraph in its entirety and add the following:

-- A method and system to detect and resolve a partition condition in a cluster of computers in a networked environment is described. The method can include: creating a scratch pad area accessible by the cluster of computers; dividing the scratch pad into a plurality of slots; recording in the plurality of slots, a generation number and a list of known nodes by each one of the plurality of nodes, wherein an identifier is written in the list for each node that is known to a writing node; comparing each slot of the plurality of slots to ensure the generation number and the list of known nodes matches in each slot of the plurality of slots; and

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Cm.t